THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI): The Government propose to bring forward a Bill for the comprehensive revision of the lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as soon as possible after various proposals have been examined.

Potential for Brackish Water Prawn Farming in Coastal Areas

2214. SHRI P. N. SUKUL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the large potential for brackish water prawn farming in the coastal areas;

(b) if so. what steps are being taken to promote prawn farming; and

(c) what are the long-term plans of Government in this regard

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) Some of the important steps and long-term plans of the Government to promote prawn farming are as follows:—

(i) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme viz., Integrated Brackish Water Fish Farm Development is in operation to extend financial and technical support to the State Governments in the task of development of brackish water fish farming.

(ii) In order to effect the transfer of technology in the brackish water farming and hatchery and feed formulation, the Government have approved a UNDP project, operative from April. 1986.

(iii) The Ministry of Commerce are also playing a supportive role to promote prawn farming in brackish water areas extending financial and technical support to the States and the prospective entrepreneurs.

(iv) Central Institute of Brackish Water Acquaculture has been established for carrying out research and extension.

(v) Central Institute of Coastal Engineering for Fishery has been set up to undertake survey, investigations and formulation of projects for helping the States to develop the brackish water fish farms.

(vi) It has been recommended that 50 per cent of the available brackishwater area should be set apart for individual fishermen. groups of fishermen and fishermen's cooperative societies and the remaining area for public sector and private sector intrepreneurs for taking up semi-intensive and intensive shrimp farming.

Farm Belonging to State Farms Corporation of India in Andhra Pradesh

2215. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Andhra Pradesh is refusing to return to the State Farms Corporation of India its 5,00 acre farm for production of quality seeds;

(b) whether the State Government is not even suggesting another alternative area where the SFCI could begin its operations;

(c) whether the Chief Minister and the State Government officials are resiling from the assurances given by them; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor and what action Government propose to take in the matter?